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Issue #2

IT'S A CELEBRATION!

Executive Order 13360 Is One Year Old Today

What's happened since President Bush signed Executive Order 13360, Increasing Opportunities for Service Disabled Veterans, on October 26, 2004? A Whole Lot! Here's some of last year's activity:

- In November 2004, volunteers from Federal Agencies created the Executive Order Working Group to align content and format of the Service Disabled Veteran-owned Small Business (SDVOSB) Strategic Plans. This group meets quarterly. During one of their meetings, they developed a list of suggestions which they forwarded to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy which outlines ideas to further improve the SDVOSB program.
- In February 2005, the plans were posted to VetBiz.gov, the Federal Web Portal for Veterans in Business
- In May 2005, Teresa Lewis was appointed SBA's Associate Administrator for Service Disabled Veteran-owned Small Business Concerns. She and William (Bill) Elmore, SBA's Associate Administrator for Veterans Business Development, have joint responsibility for supporting veterans through SBA's programs and providing training to veteran-owned small businesses.
- In June 2005, the Inaugural National Veterans Small Business Conference highlighted agency efforts to enhance opportunities with SDVOSBs. More than 800 people registered for this 3 day event that brought together key decisionmakers from Federal agencies, Federal prime contractors and a whole lot of business owners!
- In August 2005, SBA released the FY 2004 SDVOSB achievement data. We congratulate those agencies who exceeded the 3% procurement goal. They are listed on the next page.
- In September 2005, the EO Work Group began planning for the 2nd National Veterans Small Business Conference to be conducted in June 2006.
- Also in September, 2005, VA and GSA executed a partnership agreement to develop regionalized outreach teams to provide sustaining support for both veteran-owned small businesses and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses.

Veterans in Business – *Still* Serving America!

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

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- Yearlong – As part of VA's SDVOSB Strategic Plan, each facility will annually host a VOSB conference to explain to owners how to do business at that location. VA's Center for Veterans Enterprise has a conference planning guide and a variety of print and visual media available to use at these events. To learn more, send a mail message to VACVE@va.gov.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

- The 73 Government Advocates for Veterans Enterprise, who have volunteered to answer questions from veterans about how to successfully market to their agencies. Our volunteers cover 98.5% of all the dollars spent in prime contracting each year. Contact information is available on our web portal, VetBiz.gov. These Government Advocates are joined by their counterparts in the major Federal contractor organizations.
- The 57 EO Work Group Volunteers. Contact information is posted to VetBiz.gov.
- The 2004 Champions of Veterans Enterprise and Enterprising Veteran honorees. Their stories are available on the VetBiz.gov web portal.
- Personnel from the Federal agencies listed below. These are the only agencies to exceed the 3% SDVOSB goal for FY 2004. (FY 2005 data is still being submitted and will not be publicly available until much later).
 - National Endowment for the Arts: 12.19%
 - National Transportation Safety Board: 11.19%
 - Railroad Retirement Board: 3.94%
 - U.S. Department of State: 3.26%

The average for the Federal government was 0.383%. VA achieved 1.36%.

CVE Today

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